

**TO:** All Criminal Justice Professionals and Community Service Providers  
**FROM:** OPM Undersecretary Michael Lawlor and Agency Commissioners (list each)  
**RE:** Critical Call for Input – NEW Statewide Community Reentry Website  
**DATE:** January 23, 2012

The State of Connecticut is seeking your assistance on behalf of all stakeholders who receive services related to Community Reentry. As you are well aware, as the Criminal Justice System in the State continues efforts to reduce recidivism and increase public safety, there is an ever-increasing demand for services within the community, related to all aspects of the reentry process.

We are very pleased to announce that United Way of Connecticut/2-1-1 has been working in conjunction with representatives from the Office of Policy and Management, Connecticut's Reentry Roundtable Collaborative (CRRC), and the Connecticut Association of Nonprofits (CT Nonprofits), to strengthen the capabilities of the state's NEW Community Reentry website. Originally commissioned by Career Resources, Inc., the website will provide a web-based information system for the state, which when completed will enable statewide location-based searches of relevant services for individuals re-entering the community after incarceration.

#### **Call for Input**

In order for this important initiative to be realized, a key component is the accuracy of information available at any time, regarding ALL services which are available to the reentry community. For this reason, please assure that the following steps are taken by a point-person within your organization:

1. **Are you listed?** Confirm that your organization/services are listed in detail on the United Way of Connecticut/2-1-1 system website. If not – be sure to submit all necessary information.
2. **Verify that your organizational listing/information is accurate.** Assure that your organizational information is updated on an ongoing basis – beyond the current process which requests updates on an annual basis. PLEASE NOTE: Your organizational listing must include a reciprocal link to your website, to assure access to additional information.
3. **Do you link to the 2-1-1 website?** Consider adding a 2-1-1 banner to your website's homepage. You may contact Jeanette Baker at [Jeanette.Baker@ctunitedway.org](mailto:Jeanette.Baker@ctunitedway.org), if you have any questions.
4. **Questions or suggestions?** The team at United Way of Connecticut/2-1-1 continues their efforts to improve upon the process for submission and maintenance of data included in their elaborate and comprehensive system. If you have other suggestions to support this work, you may contact Sean Ghio, Director of 2-1-1 Project and Performance Management, at [sean.ghio@ctunitedway.org](mailto:sean.ghio@ctunitedway.org).

Thank you in advance, for your anticipated cooperation. Your assistance will serve to strengthen the system, and increase the availability of timely, accurate information, which is critical to the success of this important initiative.